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(54) Title: METHODS FOR TREATING AND PREVENTING APOPTOSIS-RELATED DISEASES USING RNA INTERFERING AGENTS

(57) Abstract: The present invention is based, at least in part, on the discovery of compositions and methods useful in the modulation, *e.g.*, inhibition, of gene expression or protein activity. In particular, the present invention is based on novel RNA interfering agents, *e.g.*, siRNA molecules which target apoptosis-related genes or proinflammatory cytokines, and result in reduction, *e.g.*, prolonged reduction, of apoptosis-related gene expression or proinflammatory cytokine expression in cells. Inhibition of apoptosis-related gene expression or protein activity or proinflammatory cytokine expression or protein activity, *e.g.*, by the siRNAs of the invention, inhibits apoptosis-mediated diseases or disorders and proinflammatory cytokine mediated diseases or disorders, including, for example, transplant rejection, hepatitis, liver injury, sepsis, and cancer.